

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

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DRAFTED BY:AF/S:JDAVIDOW:GFH

APPROVED BY:AF/S:DENNIS KEOGH

S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

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O 190223Z AUG 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 197413

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT LONDON 13691 ACTION SECSTATE INFO DAR ES
SALAAM LUSAKA PRETORIA USUN NY DATED AUG 17:

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 13691

EXDIS

FROM MOOSE AND PETTERSON

USUN FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PDEV, RH, UK, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED MESSAGE TO NYERERE FROM OWEN

REFERENCE: (A) LONDON 13682; (B) DAR ES SALAAM 3317

1. AS WE INFORMED YOU BY TELEPHONE LAST NIGHT FOLLOWING
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CONSULTATION WITH DAVID OWEN, WE DO NOT NOW PROPOSE TO
GIVE NYERERE THE DETAILED DOCUMENT SUBMITTED REF (A).
INSTEAD, WE HAVE DRAWN UP TALKING POINTS FOR USE WITH
NYERERE BY US-UK AMBASSADORS IN DAR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
IN BEST OF ALL WORLDS AMBASSADORS COULD CALL ON HIM
TONIGHT, ASSUMING REQUISITE APPROVALS WASHINGTON AND
LONDON.

2. OWEN WILL REVIEW FOLLOWING TEXT (PARAGRAPH 5 BELOW) BY AROUND 3:00 P.M. LOCAL. IT WILL THEN BE SENT TO UK EMBASSIES WASHINGTON AND DAR. THE FORMER WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO CLEAR WITH YOU AND RESPOND TO LONDON.

3. ALTHOUGH GRAHAM ACCEPTED MAJOR AMENDMENTS TO THIS TEXT FROM US REGARDING THE UN ROLE AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, THE FOREIGN OFFICE CLEARLY HAS NO ENTHUSIASM FOR THESE FEATURES. NOR ARE THEY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT A FRONT LINE MEETING PRIOR TO LAGOS.

4. IF DEPARTMENT AGREES, WE SUGGEST YOU REAFFIRM TO UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON (AS WE HAVE WITH THE FCO HERE) STRONG DESIRABILITY OF MAINTAINING MOMENTUM BY EARLIEST POSSIBLE MEETINGS WITH FRONT LINE AND NATIONALISTS (INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY) AS NECESSARY ANTECEDENT WITH SAG, WHICH ITSELF HIGHLY DESIRABLE.

5. BEGIN TEXT:

(1) MR. VANCE AND I NOTE WITH REGRET THAT PRESIDENT NYERERE FEELS THAT MORE TIME IS NECESSARY TO PREPARE FOR A MEETING WITH THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS. WE ARE STILL VERY KEEN TO HAVE SUCH A MEETING BEFORE THE LAGOS CONFERENCE. FOR MY PART I AM STILL READY TO COME WITH
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AMBASSADOR YOUNG AT ANY TIME. MR. VANCE AND I AGREE THAT IT IS AT A JOINT MEETING OF THAT KIND THAT WE CAN BEST PRESENT OUR PROPOSALS AS A WHOLE, CLARIFY OUR VIEWS ON THE PRECISE METHOD OF HANDLING THE DIFFICULT PROBLEMS OF THE FORCES DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD IN A MANNER THAT BOTH SATISFIES THE POLITICAL REALITIES AND ALSO MEETS THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF EXECUTION, AND AVOID THE MISUNDERSTANDINGS WHICH APPEAR TO HAVE ARISEN. HOWEVER, IF PRESIDENT NYERERE FEELS THAT HE CANNOT ORGANIZE A MEETING BEFORE THE LAGOS CONFERENCE, WE HOPE THAT HE WILL BE PREPARED TO ORGANIZE A MEETING AS SOON AFTER IT AS POSSIBLE, IN THE RECOGNITION THAT THIS MAY INVOLVE DELAY IN THE PUBLICATION OF OUR PROPOSALS. AS HE HAS NOTED, WE ARE GIVING GREAT URGENCY TO THE NEED TO PRESS ON WITH OUR ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT: OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ARE UNITED IN THAT AS IN OUR APPROACH TO THE DETAILED PROBLEMS.

(2) ELABORATING ON THE LAW AND ORDER POINT, YOU SHOULD REAFFIRM THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO HAVING A UN FORCE. WE AGREE THAT IT IS DESIRABLE THAT THIS SHOULD BE AS SUBSTANTIAL AS NECESSARY WITH A MANDATE STRONG AND CLEAR

ENOUGH TO ENABLE IT TO BE THE PRIMARY SUPPORT FOR THE POLICE IN MAINTAINING ORDER DURING/THE TRANSITION PERIOD. OUR ABILITY TO OBTAIN SUCH A FORCE AND MANDATE WILL DEPEND UPON A STRONG COLLECTIVE EFFORT WITH THE UN, THE US, THE UK AND THE FRONTLINE STATES. (DEPENDING UPON NYERERE'S RESPONSE: IF NYERERE DOES NOT BELIEVE THIS FEASIBLE, THEN WHAT ALTERNATIVE DOES HE SUGGEST?).

(3) THERE IS NO INTENTION ON OUR PART TO MAINTAIN IN BEING THE RHODESIAN FORCES AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED. THE ARMY OF INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE MUST BE AN ARMY OF ZIMBABWE'S OWN CHOOSING. WE BELIEVE THAT SEVERAL ELEMENTS OF THE PRESENT FORCE SHOULD BE ABOLISHED AT THE OUTSET. OVER TIME, AG IN ANY EVENT BY INDEPENDENCE DAY, CONFIDENTIAL

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THE REMAINING INDIVIDUALS AND ELEMENTS WILL BE EITHER DEMOBILIZED OR INCORPORATED INTO THE NEW ZIMBABWE ARMY WHICH WILL BE BASED PREDOMINANTLY UPON THE PATRIOTIC FRONT FORCES.

(4) WITH THESE GENAUAL PRINCIPLES IN MIND OUR FEELING IS THAT THE PRECISE NATURE OF THE UN FORCE AND ITS MANDATE, AND THE PRECISE MILITARY DETAILS OF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CEASEFIRE AND DEMOBILIZATION OF EXISTING FORCES, AS WELL AS THE MANNER IN WHICH THE NEW ZIMBABWE ARMY IS TO BE CONSTITUTED, SHOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION AMONG OURSELVES AND THE PARTIES CONCERNED, INCLUDING THE UNITED NATIONS.

(5) IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBLE DELAY BEFORE A FULL PRESENTATION CAN BE MADE TO THE FIVE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS WE HAVE DECIDED THAT IT WOULD BE RIGHT TO GIVE THE OTHER FOUR A GENERAL INDICATION OF THE LINES ON WHICH WE ARE THINKING, SIMILAR TO THE BRIEFING THAT PRESIDENT NYERERE HAS HIMSELF RECEIVED. OUR AMBASSADORS AND HIGH COMMISSIONERS WILL ACCORDINGLY BE DOING THIS IN THE VARIOUS CAPITALS IN THE NEXT DAY OR SO. WE ARE ALSO CONSIDERING HOW BEST TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE PARTIES DURING THE INTERVAL AND THERE MAY BE A NEED FOR FURTHER CONSULTATION WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT. UNQTE VANCE

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